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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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In the Application of Joachim Voigt et al

Ser.No.: 10/583,172

Filed: June 15, 2006

For: AIR CUSHION ARRANGEMENT FOR A PASSENGER SEAT

Customer Number: 30996

Commissioner of Patents  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

In accordance with 37 CFR § 1.56, Applicant wishes to call the attention of the Examiner to the following references:

- 1) US 5,029,939
- 2) US 4,589,695
- 3) US 5,159,726
- 4) US 4,491,364
- 5) US 2006/62081 (corresponds to WO 2004/009400)
- 6) US 6,755,475 (corresponds to DE 10 2004 027  
154)
- 7) EP 1 099 627

- 8) EP 0 882 648
- 9) DE 36 07 258
- 10) DE 197 25 194
- 11) DE 100 27 686
- 12) DE 42 11 895

References 1 – 8 are all in the English language and therefore need no further discussion as to their relevance. In accordance with United States Patent and Trademark practice, it is no longer necessary to enclose copies of U.S. Patents.

Reference 9, DE 36 07 258, discloses that for automatically adjustable support on seat or back cushions, the invention provides for a pad (10) which is self-inflatable via a valve (11) and between whose two pad faces flexible foamed material is laminated, and also a recess (13), corresponding to the shape and thickness of the pad (10), in the cushion surface of the seat-and/or back-cushion material (12), in which the pad (10) is fixed.

Reference 10, DE 197 25 194, discloses that the profiled areas of the seat to be covered have a top surface lining upon which is fitted a Velcro hook and loop strip(5) with which interacts an adhesive strip on the leather or fabric cover material. The top surface lining lies fully flat on the profiled areas of the seat.

Reference 11, DE 100 27 686, discloses that this vehicle seat section consists of a lower part (18) onto which an upper part (20) is fixed. The lower part (18) is provided with chambers (24), which can be inflated, using compressed air, to form the contours of the upper section when it is being used as a seat. When not inflated, the upper section (20) remains flat allowing the seat to be used as a bunk.

Reference 12, DE 42 11 895, discloses a car seat with a deformable body support is covered with padding and contains at least one airtight elastic cushion connected to an air supply via a pump (8) and a valve (9). The cushion is filled with porous elastic foam. In the slack state, the foam assumes a basic contour. By suitable switching of the pump, the cushion can be inflated or deflated to suit the person on the seat. Several possible shapes of the foam body within the cushion are shown and it may possess ribs which create cavities between the foam and the cushion in the slack state. ADVANTAGE - Allows adjustable seat contour to suit person on it.

Copies of the listed documents, with the exception of any US Patent references, are submitted herewith along with the form PTO-1449.

It is respectfully requested that any fees required and not enclosed herewith or any shortages in any fees be charged to Deposit Account 02-1653.

Consideration of the foregoing in relation to this application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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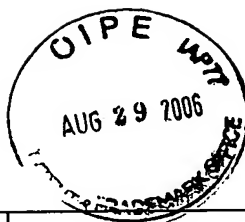
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Enclosures



<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>		<b>Complete if Known</b>	
CUSTOMER NUMBER: 30996		<b>Application Number</b>	10/583,172
		<b>Filing Date</b>	6/15/2006
		<b>First Named Inventor</b>	Joachim Voigt et al
		Group Art Unit	
		Examiner Name	
		Attorney Docket No.	LE/be 030212US

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Initials	Cite No.	Patent Number Pub. Number	Issue Date Pub. Date	Patentee	Class	Subclass	Filing Date
	1	5,029,939	7/9/1991	Smith et al			10/5/1989
	2	4,589,695	5/20/1986	Isono			3/28/1984
	3	5,159,726	11/3/1992	Bloch et al			1/2/1990
	4	4,491,364	1/1/1985	Hattori et al			2/12/1982
	5	2006/62081	7/27/2006	Kerekes et al			3/27/2003
	6	6,755,475	6/29/2004	Tiesler et al			6/3/2003

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Initials	Cite No.	Document Number	Publication Date	Country or Patent Office	Class	Subclass	Translation Yes   No
	7	EP 1 099 627	26 Oct 2000	Europe			X
	8	EP 0 882 648	22 May 1998	Europe			X
	9	DE 36 07 258	10 Sep 1987	Germany			X
	10	DE 197 25 194	24 Dec 1998	Germany			X
	11	DE 100 27 686	17 Jan 2002	Germany			X
	12	DE 42 11 895	14 Oct 1993	Germany			X

OTHER PRIOR ART B NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS		
Examiner Initials	Cite No.	

Examiner		Date	
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8/24/2006